

Worley carried off by Patrick Vercoe as Wanderers drop point

Wycombe Wanderers 1,
Kingstonian 1.

THIS SCRAPPY game was marred five minutes from the end when Kingstonian centre-half Edwards ruthlessly chopped Wycombe Wanderers' winger Len Worley to the floor. The ex-international player was taken off on a stretcher and rushed to Wycombe hospital where he received treatment to his left leg. An X-ray examination revealed there was no break and it was hoped Worley could participate in last night's (Tuesday) match at Tooting and Mitcham.

For the opening 20 minute period both teams produced some sparkling football which was a fine advertisement for the Isthmian League as this match was being filmed by the B.B.C. drama group cameras. Sadly, the calibre of the football slipped away and became ragged and uncoordinated for which both teams must share equal responsibility.

The visit of Kingstonian not only brought the cameras but heralded the return of Les Merrick to his familiar outside-left spot. Not surprisingly Merrick had a quiet game but towards the end was beginning to grow in confidence. Wycombe's other injured player, Julian Lailey, did not appear allowing Dave Thomas to keep his 100 per cent appearance record.

Kingstonian started urgently and Maskell was kept busy dealing with shots from Hugo and McCormick. The K's inside-left John McCormick was to cause a tremendous amount of upset to Wanderers' defenders with his dangerous solo raids.

Merrick was soon to make his presence felt when from Thomas's cross he mis-timed a volley which gave Cobb plenty of time to position himself for the save.

MATCH DETAILS

Wycombe Wanderers: J. Maskell; L. Temel, C. Gale; V. Faulkner, I. Rundle, D. Thomas; L. Worley, B. Baker, K. Samuels, A. Horseman, L. Merrick. Sub. V. Busby.

Kingstonians: D. Cobb; R. Adaway, P. Finn; J. Clarke, D. Edwards, M. Preston; M. Hugo, D. Leonard, J. Baker, J. McCormick, J. McBride. Sub. R. Kane.

Corners — Wycombe 2, Kingstonian 7.

Free kicks (conceded) Wycombe 6, Kingstonian 7.

Referee Mr. A. G. Hitchman (Twyford).

nian defence and Horseman saw his fierce drive from the edge of the box brilliantly saved by Cobb, who was forced to go full-length to gather the ball at the second attempt.

There was a scare for Wycombe fans when McCormick's slick pass found Hugo, who eluded Faulkner's tackle and chipped a shot against a post which Maskell pounced on immediately from the rebound. Maskell displayed a fine piece of goal-keeping soon after when he did exceptionally well to reach McCormick's snap shot on the turn from 20 yards.

The second half opened

brightly enough but it was soon to deteriorate. Merrick, Temel and Samuels, were to string together a neat piece of play which gave Worley the opportunity of driving inches wide of the left-hand corner.

Narrow miss

This narrow miss was to be followed by two golden chances which fell to Horseman, who appears to be finding it increasingly difficult to hit the back of the net. Baker, whose distribution often lacked accuracy, slotted an astute pass inside two Kingstonian defenders but Horseman, striding through, shot hopelessly wide from eight yards. Seconds later Horseman was back again, but this time his shot went across the goal when nobody was around to follow up.

To a certain extent Kingstonian were still a force to be reckoned with and they illustrated this fact by providing McCormick with a wonderful chance from four yards which he wasted by lofting hopelessly over the top.

Both teams appeared to be content with a draw long before the end although Merrick had other ideas. A Temel cross was headed out to Merrick who quickly side-stepped a Kingstonian challenge before shooting strongly at Cobb.

Just five minutes remaining, came this unnecessary tackle by Edwards which left a nasty taste in the mouth. Worley had begun one of his celebrated runs through the middle and Edwards advanced to go straight in over the ball and smash his boot into Worley's left knee. While Worley was receiving attention Edwards received a strong lecture from the referee but I found it surprising that Mr. Hitchman did not take a stronger line of action.